

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 207423

62

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD

SUBJECT: PROPOSED P.L. - 480 RICE PROGRAM FOR INDONESIA

REFS: (A) STATE 80181; (B) STATE 128516; (C) JAKARTA 9171;

-- (D) JAKARTA 10088; (E) JAKARTA 10759

1. REQUEST YOU CONSULT HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON PROPOSED ADDITION OF 200,000 METRIC TONS RICE VALUED AT 43.6 MILLION DOLLARS TO CALENDAR YEAR 1976 P.L.-480 TITLE I AGREEMENT WITH INDONESIA. RICE IS FOR SUPPLY OCTOBER THROUGH DECEMBER. THIS QUANTITY WILL INCREASE TOTAL AMOUNT P.L.-480 RICE SUPPLIED INDONESIA DURING YEAR TO 350,000 MT. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF BASIC AGREEMENT REMAIN SAME AS OUTLINED REF A. COMMENTS ARE REQUESTED BY C.O.B. SEPTEMBER 3.

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2. FOR BANGKOK: IN RECENT NOTE THAI EMBASSY HERE HAS

REEMPHASIZED THEIR SENSITIVITY TO P.L.-480 SALES TO INDONESIA QUOTE SINCE THAILAND HAS AN URGENT NEED TO SELL LARGE QUANTITIES OF RICE FROM ITS STOCK BY THE END OF THE YEAR. UNQUOTE IN THIS REGARD IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO KNOW MORE DETAILS OF THESE CONTEMPLATED RICE SALES, PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS LEVELS AND TIMING OF POTENTIAL AGREEMENTS WITH INDONESIA. WITH REGARD TO 200,000 METRIC

TONS PROPOSED IN THIS MESSAGE, YOU MAY POINT OUT TO THE THAI THAT WE UNDERSTAND INDONESIAN RICE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE ARE SUBSTANTIAL AND OUR TOTAL PL 480 PROGRAM WILL MEET ONLY FRACTION OF THIS DEMAND. ADDITIONALLY, YOU SHOULD BE AWARE GOI RICE IMPORTS FROM THAILAND, ACTUAL AND PROJECTED, AS REPORTED REFS (C) THROUGH (E). THESE MESSAGES BEING REPEATED TO YOU. TOTAL SALES REPORTED REPRESENT LARGEST THAI RICE SALES TO INDONESIA IN RECENT HISTORY.

3. FOR JAKARTA: YOU MAY WISH TO MENTION TO INDONESIANS AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME USEFULNESS OF THEIR CONTINUING TO KEEP THAI INFORMED OF THEIR OVERALL RICE IMPORT NEEDS. WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED REPORTING ON THAI/INDONESIAN TRANSACTIONS. ROBINSON

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